

DEAD WHALE WASHED ASHORE

A DEAD marine creature, believed to be a whale, was washed ashore at Kasibo hamlet, Konogogo on the west coast of central New Ireland Province. The locals feared the foul odour would emanate from the dead animal and pollute the sea, destroying coastal vegetation. Words and picture: JORGE RUMAROPEN

Counsellors needed to fight gender violence

BY NELLIE SETEPANO

PAPUA New Guinea does not have any enough professional counsellors or psychotherapists to serve victims of gender based violence and violence associated with sexual abuse, says the Department of Religion, Youth and Community Development.

For a very long time the national department responsible for providing that service does not provide assistance directly to those that need it but depend solely on care givers to help, said the department.

Counsellors are generally psychotherapists who are focused exclusively on providing therapy to individuals, couples, or families, the

At a glance

SHORTAGE: Papua New Guinea does not have any enough professional counsellors or psychotherapists to serve victims of gender based violence and violence associated with sexual abuse, says the Department of Religion, Youth and Community Development.

department noted at this week's women's forum.

Counsellors do not prescribe medications. Many counsellors focus on common life issues, including stress and anxiety, mild to moderate depression, rela-

tionship conflicts, and work or career development.

Although counselling graduate programs include a great deal of psychology, the emphasis is more on working with "problems of normal living" rather than severe mental illnesses.

It was also noted that licensed professional counsellors or LPCs had completed an accredited graduate program plus at least 2,000 hours of supervised psychotherapy experience.

Religion, Youth and Community Development Secretary Anna Solomon admitted her department lacked even welfare officers (social workers).

National director for child welfare Simon Yannis also admitted that there were

not enough trained welfare officers and counsellors, despite immense need for more this specialists.

Those who were employed were mostly trained overseas as therapists because PNG universities do not offer specific courses on this program, Ms Solomon said.

In a women's forum held in the nation's capital this week, women from non-governmental organisations and members of the national council of women raised concerns for the need to have this professional people at safe houses and or refuge centres.

Many safe houses were either cared by churches, NGO or members of provincial council of women.

the drum



DISRESPECT

SURELY arguing with the OC is not good form? Guess one member is about to find out the power they have? One would think that in itself is showing disrespect to your own office and theirs.

report it to the regulators. It doesn't help the next customer when you quietly get a replacement, be compensated and walk away. Manufacturers need to be held accountable.

CONTEMPT

THE verbal tirade that the MP alluded to should be grounds for him to be cited for contempt? The watchdog has those powers and now is the best time to apply them to pull leaders into line.

HIS RIGHT

PICTURES of Koroba-Kopiago MP Philip Undialu getting married to a Filipino woman have gone viral on social media. The politician has come under attack. But hey it's his right so cut him some slack.

ATTORNEY

A POLITICIAN with power of attorney over Motu Koita land? Hope the true landowners shoot this down. Maybe another leader the OC needs to be asking a few questions. It's scary what this can trigger.

THE CROCS

THE Moresby South MP posted on social media on flood waters receding at Adventure Park outside the NCD. Not sure if anyone will want to check whether the park's crocodile population were accounted for?

A ROACH

RED faces at a major bakery when a cockroach was discovered in pastry. Just as well the child who made the gory find didn't eat it and reported to authorities. The kid is definitely smart and aware.

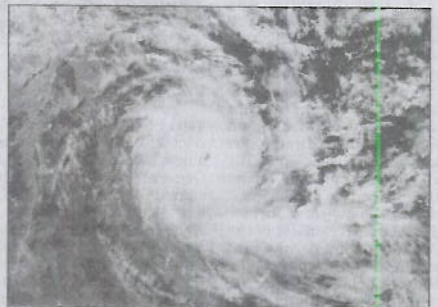
ACCOUNT

IF A PRODUCT is faulty

CYCLONES

WHERE are Nathan and Olwyn? This is a question Aussies and Papua New Guineans have been asking in recent days. They are names of the two tropical cyclones that threatened the PNG and Queensland coastlines.

IN A NAME



READERS could be wondering how they got their names. The World Meteorological Organisation manages a list of names for each region. If a cyclone develops in your region then you name it. Nathan and Olwyn developed in Oz region hence their being called Nathan and Olwyn.

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The bottom line Hurricanes are large, spiraling tropical storms that can pack wind speeds of over 160 mph and unleash more than 2.4 trillion gallons of rain a day.

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